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October 19, 2003

U.S. Food and Drug Administration  
Dockets Management Branch  
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20852

To Whom it May Concern:

PLEASE grant petition # 98P-0151/CP1 to ban the slaughter of downed animals for human food.

After leaving the production farm, farm animals may be legally transported up to 36 hours without food or water!! Animals commonly endure injuries and illnesses due to transit conditions. The meat and dairy industries have termed these animals -- too sick, weak or crippled to stand -- as "downers". They are unable to reach food or water troughs and suffer days without attention to their basic needs. Left without nutrition and much needed veterinary care, these sick animals routinely die of neglect after days of painful waiting or are dumped alive on auction "deadpiles". Those who survive are dragged to slaughter with chains or pushed with tractors and forklifts, causing further injuries from bruises to broken bones. Stockyards and slaughterhouses are not required by law or industry regulations to euthanize sick and dying animals.

The meat and dairy industries deal in "downers" because they can still sell them for human consumption. Profits, not humane considerations, guide industry practice, and "downed" animals suffer gross abuse at livestock facilities across the country. We also must consider that many of these sick, diseased animals that are killed for human consumption may in turn be causing humans sickness and disease. PLEASE grant petition # 98P-0151/CP1 to ban the slaughter of these poor downed animals for human food.

I Thank you in advance for your full cooperation in this very serious matter.

Sincerely,



Brenda Frey  
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